पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) से (ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Constitution of Central Poilution Control Board

215. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of Central Pollution Control Board has proposed that the Board be replaced by a new integrated body with wider mandate and that the powers to shut polluting units as under Section 5 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 be transferred from the Ministry of Environment to the new body;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether there is any accountability of the State Pollution Control Boards in enforcing uniform standards relating to sewage and effluents etc. and taking time-bound action against erring units including their closure; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to have the Central laws observed and implemented in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) A proposal for renaming of Central and State Pollution Control Boards with greater mandate has been received and is being included as an agenda item for the meeting of Environment Ministers of the States. The State Pollution Control Boards are the enforcing agencies for the standards relating to sewage and effluents etc. in their respective States and to take time-bound action against erring units under the Water Act and the Air Act.

(d) Does not arise.

Environmental Damage to Green Powai Hills, Bombay

216. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report published in the Indian Express of 11th November, 1993, to the effect that the vast environmental damage done to the once lush green Powai Hills near Bombay by continous quarrying;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to undertake a study of the same;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Central Government.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The State Government has initiated action to close down the quarries in Powai Hills, Bombay.

Preserving and Checking of Genetic Material

217. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news analysis which appeared in the Economic Times of 29 December, 1993 on India's failure to formulate an effective strategy, including a legislation for enumerating, cataloguing, preserving and checking of smuggling of its genetic material;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what are the reasons for not implementing the same even after more